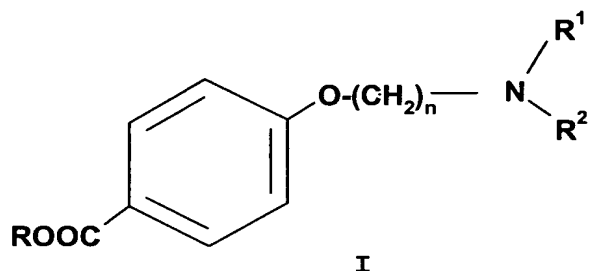


Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A process for preparing a compound of formula I



wherein;

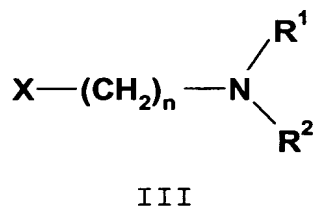
R is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;

*B1* R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> each are independently C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, or combine together with the nitrogen atom to which R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are attached, to form piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, methylpyrrolidinyl, dimethylpyrrolidinyl, morpholino, or 1-hexamethyleneimino; and

n is 2 or 3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which comprises the step of:

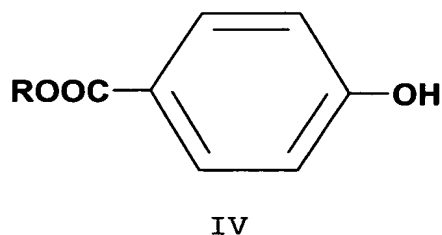
reacting a haloalkyl amine of formula III



wherein;

X is a halogen; and

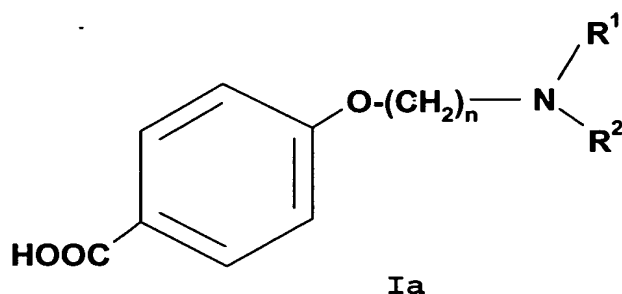
R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, and n are as defined above, with a compound of formula IV



wherein R is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, in the presence of a hydrated inorganic base and an appropriate solvent.

2. (Original) The process according to Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

- a) extracting the reaction product of Claim 1 with an aqueous acid; and optionally
- b) cleaving the ester of the reaction product from step a) to form an acid compound of formula Ia



3. (Original) A process according to Claim 1 wherein the hydrated inorganic base is selected from the group consisting of potassium carbonate, sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, lithium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, calcium carbonate.

4. (Original) A process according to Claim 1 wherein the solvent is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl acetate solvent selected from the group consisting of amyl acetate, isopropyl acetate, isobutyl acetate and ethyl acetate.

5. (Previously Amended) A process according to Claim 1 wherein said C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl acetate solvent is amyl acetate.

6. (Original) A process according to Claim 1 wherein said hydrated inorganic base is a carbonate or bicarbonate salt.

7. (Original) A process according to Claim 6 wherein said carbonate salt is potassium carbonate hydrated with 1-20% water.

8. (Original) A process according to Claim 7 wherein said hydrated potassium carbonate is achieved by adding bulk water.

B1 9. (Original) A process according to Claim 7 wherein said hydrated potassium carbonate is achieved by water of hydration.

10. (Original) A process according to Claim 7 wherein said carbonate salt is potassium carbonate sesquihydrate.

11. (Original) A process according to Claim 1 wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  combine together with the nitrogen atom to which  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are attached, to form piperidinyl; and  
n is 2;  
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. (Original) A process according to Claim 2 wherein said aqueous acid is hydrochloric acid.

13. Cancelled.

14. (Previously Amended) A process according to Claim 1 wherein;  
 $R^1$  and  $R^2$  combine with the nitrogen atom to which  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are attached, to form a piperidinyl moiety,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  each are

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*B1* hydrogen, and n is 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or derivative thereof.

15. Cancelled.

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